

laser spot defined by where the reproducing beam is incident to said phase control layer,
 wherein the irradiation with the reproducing beam of said phase control layer within the
 laser spot causes a phase difference due to one of the two areas changing between a crystal
 and an amorphous phase that alters an optical path of the reproducing beam reflected from said
 phase change recording layer.

4. (CANCELED)

^{SUB}_{P2} 5. (ONCE AMENDED) The phase change optical disc of claim 3, wherein said phase
 control layer is formed of a material selected from the group consisting essentially of the
 GeSbTe family, InSbTe family, AgInSb family, Au, and Ni.

7. (CANCELED)

^{SUB}_{P3} 8. (ONCE AMENDED) The phase change optical disc of claim 5, wherein said phase
 control layer is formed of a material selected from the group consisting essentially of the
 GeSbTe family, InSbTe family, AgInSb family, Au, and Ni.

12. (CANCELED)

^{SUB}_{P5} 13. (ONCE AMENDED) The phase change optical disc of claim 1, wherein the phase
 control layer is formed of a material selected from the group consisting essentially of the
 GeSbTe family, InSbTe family, AgInSb family, Au, and Ni.

SUB 31 18. (ONCE AMENDED) A phase change optical disc compatible with a recording beam and having multiple layers formed on a transparent substrate, the multiple layers including a reflective layer, comprising:

a phase change recording layer which converts between the crystal phase and the amorphous phase by irradiation with the recording beam; and

a phase control layer disposed between the transparent substrate and said phase change recording layer, said phase control layer having a plurality of areas defined in a laser spot, the laser spot defined by where the reproducing beam is incident to said phase control layer,

A5 wherein the irradiation of the laser spot on said phase control layer with the reproducing beam causes a phase difference in the plurality of areas on said phase control layer due to ones of the plurality of areas being converted between a crystalline and an amorphous state that alters an optical path of the reproducing beam reflected from said phase change recording layer.

SUB 32 21. (NEW) An optical disc compatible with a reproducing beam and having multiple layers formed on a transparent substrate, comprising:

a recording layer having recording marks to be reproduced using the reproducing beam forming a first laser spot on said recording layer; and

A6 a phase control layer disposed between the transparent substrate and said recording layer upon which the reproducing beam forms a second laser spot,

wherein the irradiation of the second laser spot on said phase control layer causes one area of said phase control layer within the second laser spot to be converted between a crystalline and an amorphous state so as to alter an optical path of a portion of the reproducing beam such that the second laser spot is larger than the first laser spot.